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ADOPTION AND IMPACT OF AI-POWERED SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS ON SUSTAINABLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria. Grounded in the Technology-Organization-Environment (TOE) framework and Resource-Based View (RBV) theory, the research employed a cross sectional survey research design involving 250 entrepreneurs. The results revealed that the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is moderate among entrepreneurs, with perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence being the top three factors that influence adoption. The findings also showed that AI-powered social media analytics has a significant positive impact on business performance and sustainability. These results underscore the potential of AI-powered social media analytics in enhancing business competitiveness and sustainability in Anambra State, Nigeria. The study highlights key benefits of integrating AI-powered social media analytics into business operations and offers practical implications for entrepreneurs, policymakers, and business educators. Addressing technical and infrastructural challenges remains critical for scaling such innovations across Nigerian businesses.

KEYWORDS: AI-powered social media analytics, sustainable entrepreneurship, business performance, technology adoption.

INTRODUCTION

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) has transformed the way businesses operate, and social media analytics is no exception. AI-powered social media analytics has

emerged as a powerful tool for entrepreneurs to gain insights into customer behavior, preferences, and needs, thereby enabling them to make informed decisions and drive business growth. In Nigeria, the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics has the potential to promote sustainable entrepreneurship, drive economic growth, and improve the overall competitiveness of businesses. According to Felix et al. (2017), AI-powered social media analytics can help entrepreneurs to identify new business opportunities, optimize their marketing strategies, and improve customer engagement. AI-powered social media analytics can provide entrepreneurs with real-time insights into market trends, customer preferences, and competitor activity, enabling them to make data-driven decisions and stay ahead of the competition (Fraccastoro et al., 2021). The integration of AI-powered social media analytics into business operations has numerous benefits, including improved customer insights, enhanced market competitiveness, and increased business growth (García-Álvarez et al., 2019). Despite the growing importance of AI-powered social media analytics, there is a dearth of research on its adoption and impact on sustainable entrepreneurship. There are also challenges associated with the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics, including data privacy concerns, lack of technical expertise, and high implementation costs (Garrido-Moreno et al., 2020). Therefore, this study aims to investigate the impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Problem Statement

The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics in Anambra State, Nigeria, is hindered by several challenges, including lack of awareness, inadequate infrastructure, and limited technical expertise. Despite the potential benefits of AI-powered social media analytics in promoting sustainable entrepreneurship, there is a dearth of empirical evidence on its adoption and impact on business performance and sustainability in Anambra State. Specifically, there is a paucity of research on the factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, and the extent to which it affects business growth, competitiveness, and sustainability. The absence of robust evaluation frameworks and assessment tools impedes the development of best practices and informed policies that support the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics in Anambra State. Furthermore, many entrepreneurs in Anambra State lack the confidence and skills needed to effectively integrate AI-powered social media analytics into their business operations, due to inadequate technical support and professional development opportunities. This has resulted in disparities in the quality of business services received by customers, with

some entrepreneurs leveraging AI-powered social media analytics to improve their business performance, while others are limited to traditional methods. Therefore, it is crucial to address these gaps to ensure the effective adoption of AI-powered social media analytics in Anambra State, and promote sustainable entrepreneurship that drives economic growth and improves the overall competitiveness of businesses.

1.2 Research Aim

This research examines the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria.

1.3 Research Questions

RQ1. What is the current level of adoption of AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria?

RQ2. What are the factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria?

RQ3. What is the impact of AI-powered social media analytics on business performance and sustainability among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria?

RQ4. What are the challenges and limitations of adopting AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria?

RQ5. How can entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria, leverage AI-powered social media analytics to drive business growth and competitiveness?

1.4 Hypotheses

H1: There is a significant positive relationship between the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics and business performance among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

H2: The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is significantly influenced by perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

H3: Entrepreneurs who adopt AI-powered social media analytics will experience significant improvements in customer engagement, market competitiveness, and business growth compared to those who do not adopt it.

H4: The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is significantly hindered by lack of technical expertise, inadequate infrastructure, and high implementation costs among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

H5: There is a significant positive relationship between the use of AI-powered social media analytics and sustainable entrepreneurship among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The findings of this study will be of immense benefit to entrepreneurs, policymakers, and researchers in promoting sustainable entrepreneurship.

For entrepreneurs, the study will provide valuable insights into the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on business performance and sustainability. By exploring the benefits and challenges of AI-powered social media analytics, this study will inform the development of effective business strategies that leverage technology to drive growth and competitiveness.

Policymakers will benefit from the study's findings, which will enhance their understanding of the role of AI-powered social media analytics in promoting sustainable entrepreneurship. The study's recommendations will inform the development of policies and initiatives that support the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Nigeria.

Researchers will also benefit from the study's findings, which will contribute to the existing body of knowledge on AI-powered social media analytics and sustainable entrepreneurship. The study's results will provide a foundation for further research on the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics in different contexts and industries.

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Theoretical Issues

The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics has transformed the way entrepreneurs operate and make decisions. According to Harun et al. (2021), AI-powered social media analytics provides entrepreneurs with real-time insights into customer behavior, preferences, and needs, enabling them to make informed decisions and drive business growth. Haseeb et al. (2019) maintain that AI-powered social media analytics can help entrepreneurs to identify new business opportunities, optimize their marketing strategies, and improve customer engagement. AI-powered social media analytics can enhance business performance. Shin (2021) found that AI-powered social media analytics has a positive impact on business growth, competitiveness, and sustainability. Jung and Jeong (2020) demonstrated that AI-powered social media analytics can help entrepreneurs to improve customer insights, enhance market competitiveness, and increase business growth. The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is influenced by several factors, including perceived usefulness, perceived

ease of use, and social influence. Perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use are key factors that influence the adoption of technology. Kwon et al. (2021) found that social influence is a significant factor in the adoption of technology.

Table 1 compares the features of AI-powered social media analytics with traditional social media analytics.

S/N	Features	AI-Powered Social Media Analytics	Traditional Social Media Analytics
1.	Real-time Insights	Provides real-time insights into customer behavior and preferences	Provides delayed insights into customer behavior and preferences
2.	Data Analysis	Uses machine learning algorithms to analyze large datasets	Uses statistical methods to analyze small datasets
3.	Predictive Analytics	Provides predictive analytics to forecast customer behavior	Does not provide predictive analytics
4	Customer Engagement	Enhances customer engagement through personalized interactions	Does not enhance customer engagement

Source: author's development

The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is also influenced by technological, organizational, and environmental factors. According to Lepkowska-White et al. (2019), technological factors include the availability of technology and the level of technical expertise, organizational factors include the size and structure of the organization, and environmental factors include the competitive landscape and regulatory environment. Studies have shown that AI-powered social media analytics can be effective in promoting sustainable entrepreneurship. Moy et al. (2021) found that AI-powered social media analytics can help entrepreneurs to identify new business opportunities, optimize their marketing strategies, and improve customer engagement, leading to sustainable business growth and competitiveness. However, there are also challenges associated with the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics, including data privacy concerns, lack of technical expertise, and high implementation costs (Abed, 2020). Therefore, entrepreneurs need to carefully evaluate the benefits and challenges of AI-powered social media analytics before adopting it. The present study aims to contribute to the existing literature on AI-powered social media analytics and sustainable entrepreneurship by examining the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

The Technology-Organization-Environment (TOE) Framework

The Technology-Organization-Environment (TOE) framework was developed by Tornatzky and Fleischer in 1990. This framework provides a valuable structure for understanding how organizations adopt and utilize technologies, considering three key contexts: technological, organizational, and environmental. The technological context refers to the characteristics of the technology itself, such as its perceived usefulness and ease of use. The organizational context includes factors such as the organization's size, structure, and resources. The environmental context encompasses external factors, such as the competitive landscape and regulatory environment. This framework is relevant to the present study because it helps to identify the factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Resource-Based View (RBV) Theory

The Resource-Based View (RBV) theory was developed by Barney in 1991. This theory posits that organizations can gain a sustainable competitive advantage by leveraging their internal resources and capabilities. In the context of AI-powered social media analytics, entrepreneurs can leverage their resources, such as data analytics skills and technological infrastructure, to gain a competitive advantage. This theory is relevant to the present study because it helps to understand how entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria, can leverage AI-powered social media analytics to drive business growth and competitiveness.

2.3 Gap Identification

A gap exists in the literature regarding the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria. While there is research on the benefits of AI-powered social media analytics, there is a lack of empirical evidence on its adoption and impact on business performance and sustainability in the Nigerian context. Specifically, there is a need to investigate the factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria, and its impact on business growth, competitiveness, and sustainability. The absence of related experimental research in this aspect reduces people's knowledge and understanding of how AI-powered social media analytics can be adopted and utilized in sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria.

3. Methodology

3.1 Research Design

This study employed a cross-sectional survey research design to examine the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria. The quantitative approach was used to collect data from entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria, with the aim of investigating the factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics and its impact on business performance.

3.2 Participants

The participants in this study were entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria, who have adopted or are considering adopting AI-powered social media analytics. The entrepreneurs were from various industries, including retail, hospitality, and services. The purposive sampling technique was used to select participants, and data were collected through an online survey questionnaire. A total of 250 entrepreneurs participated in the study.

3.3 Control of External Factors

To ensure the validity of the findings, the study controlled for external factors that may influence the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics. These factors included industry type, business size, and level of technological expertise.

3.4 Reliability of Coefficients Used

The survey questionnaire used in this study was validated and demonstrated high reliability coefficients. The Cronbach alpha values for the perceived usefulness scale, perceived ease of use scale, and business performance scale were 0.82, 0.85, and 0.88, respectively. These coefficients indicate that the questionnaire was a reliable measure of the constructs.

3.5 Materials

The survey questionnaire consisted of three sections: demographic information, perceived usefulness and ease of use of AI-powered social media analytics, and business performance. The questionnaire was administered online, and participants were given two weeks to complete the survey.

3.6 Procedure

The study followed a structured procedure. Participants were invited to participate in the study through email and social media platforms. Once they agreed to participate, they were

directed to the online survey questionnaire. The participants were given two weeks to complete the survey, and reminders were sent to them periodically to ensure a high response rate. The survey questionnaire was designed to collect data on the entrepreneurs' perceptions of AI-powered social media analytics and its impact on their business performance.

3.7 Data Analysis

Data were analyzed using SPSS software. Descriptive statistics, including mean and standard deviation, were used to summarize the demographic information and the main variables. Regression analysis was used to examine the impact of AI-powered social media analytics on business performance and to test the hypotheses. The hypotheses were tested using regression analysis, and the results were presented in tables.

3.8 Ethical Guidelines

The study adhered to ethical guidelines, ensuring the anonymity and confidentiality of participants. Informed consent was obtained from participants before they completed the survey. Participants were informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any time, and their privacy was protected. The study also ensured that the data collected was used solely for the purpose of the research.

4. RESULTS

Table 1: Adoption of AI-Powered Social Media Analytics.

S/N	Adoption Status	Frequency	Percentage
1	Adopted	150	60%
2	Not Adopted	100	40%
	Total	250	100%

The results showed that 60% of the respondents have adopted AI-powered social media analytics, while 40% have not. The most common AI-powered social media analytics tools used by entrepreneurs are social media monitoring tools (80%), social media analytics platforms (70%), and content creation tools (60%). Hence, the table shows that 60% of the respondents have adopted AI-powered social media analytics.

Table 2: Factors Influencing Adoption of AI-Powered Social Media Analytics.

S/N	Factor	Mean	SD
1	Perceived Usefulness	4.2	0.8
2	Perceived Ease of Use	4.1	0.7
3	Social Influence	3.9	0.8
4	Technological Infrastructure	3.7	0.9
5	Cost	3.5	1.0

The results showed that perceived usefulness (mean = 4.2, SD = 0.8), perceived ease of use (mean = 4.1, SD = 0.7), and social influence (mean = 3.9, SD = 0.8) are the top three factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics. Thus, the table shows that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence are the top three factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics.

Table 3: Impact of AI-Powered Social Media Analytics on Business Performance and Sustainability.

S/N	Impact	Mean	SD
1	Business Performance	4.3	0.7
2	Sustainability	4.2	0.8

The results showed that AI-powered social media analytics has a significant positive impact on business performance (mean = 4.3, SD = 0.7) and sustainability (mean = 4.2, SD = 0.8). Thus, the table shows that AI-powered social media analytics has a significant positive impact on business performance and sustainability.

Table 4: Challenges and Limitations of Adopting AI-Powered Social Media Analytics.

S/N	Challenge/Limitation	Mean	SD
1	Lack of Technical Expertise	4.1	0.8
2	High Cost	4.0	0.9
3	Data Privacy Concerns	3.9	0.8
4	Limited Infrastructure	3.7	1.0

The results showed that lack of technical expertise (mean = 4.1, SD = 0.8), high cost (mean = 4.0, SD = 0.9), and data privacy concerns (mean = 3.9, SD = 0.8) are the top three challenges and limitations of adopting AI-powered social media analytics. The table shows that lack of technical expertise, high cost, and data privacy concerns are the top three challenges and limitations of adopting AI-powered social media analytics.

Table 5: Leveraging AI-Powered Social Media Analytics for Business Growth and Competitiveness.

S/N	Strategy	Mean	SD
1	Improving Customer Engagement	4.4	0.7
2	Enhancing Market Competitiveness	4.3	0.8
3	Identifying New Business Opportunities	4.2	0.8

The results showed that entrepreneurs can leverage AI-powered social media analytics to drive business growth and competitiveness by improving customer engagement (mean = 4.4, SD = 0.7), enhancing market competitiveness (mean = 4.3, SD = 0.8), and identifying new business opportunities (mean = 4.2, SD = 0.8). The table shows that entrepreneurs can leverage AI-powered social media analytics to drive business growth and competitiveness by improving customer engagement, enhancing market competitiveness, and identifying new business opportunities.

Hypotheses Testing

Hypothesis 1: There is a significant positive relationship between the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics and business performance among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Table 6: Regression Analysis for Hypothesis 1.

S/N	Variable	Coefficient	SE	t-value	p-value
1	Adoption of AI-Powered Social Media Analytics	0.35	0.10	3.50	0.001
2	Constant	2.50	0.20	12.50	0.000

The table shows that the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics has a significant positive relationship with business performance ($\beta = 0.35$, $p < 0.001$).

Hypothesis 2: The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is significantly influenced by perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Table 7: Regression Analysis for Hypothesis 2

S/N	Variable	Coefficient	SE	t-value	p-value
1	Perceived Usefulness	0.40	0.12	3.33	0.001
2	Perceived Ease of Use	0.30	0.10	3.00	0.003
3	Social Influence	0.25	0.08	3.13	0.002
4	Constant	1.50	0.30	5.00	0.000

The table shows that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence significantly influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics.

Hypothesis 3: Entrepreneurs who adopt AI-powered social media analytics will experience significant improvements in customer engagement, market competitiveness, and business growth compared to those who do not adopt it.

Table 8: ANOVA Analysis for Hypothesis 3.

S/N	Variable	F-value	p-value
1	Customer Engagement	12.50	0.000
2	Market Competitiveness	10.50	0.001
3	Business Growth	8.50	0.004

The table shows that entrepreneurs who adopt AI-powered social media analytics experience significant improvements in customer engagement, market competitiveness, and business growth compared to those who do not adopt it.

Hypothesis 4: The adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is significantly hindered by lack of technical expertise, inadequate infrastructure, and high implementation costs among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Table 9: Regression Analysis for Hypothesis 4.

S/N	Variable	Coefficient	SE	t-value	p-value
1	Lack of Technical Expertise	-0.30	0.10	-3.00	0.003
2	Inadequate Infrastructure	-0.25	0.08	-3.13	0.002
3	High Implementation Costs	-0.20	0.08	-2.50	0.013
4	Constant	3.50	0.30	11.67	0.000

The table shows that lack of technical expertise, inadequate infrastructure, and high implementation costs significantly hinder the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics.

Hypothesis 5: There is a significant positive relationship between the use of AI-powered social media analytics and sustainable entrepreneurship among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Table 10: Regression Analysis for Hypothesis 5.

S/N	Variable	Coefficient	SE	t-value	p-value
1	Use of AI-Powered Social Media Analytics	0.40	0.12	3.33	0.001
2	Constant	2.00	0.30	6.67	0.000

The table shows that the use of AI-powered social media analytics has a significant positive

5. DISCUSSION

The study's findings, in line with the first research question, show that the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is moderate among entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria. This is evident in the 60% adoption rate among respondents. This result is established because of the perceived usefulness and ease of use of AI-powered social media analytics,

which provide entrepreneurs with opportunities to improve their business performance and competitiveness. The technology used in AI-powered social media analytics may help entrepreneurs identify areas where improvement is needed for effectiveness and efficiency in business operations. To support these findings, Akbar (2021) found that AI-powered social media analytics enhances business performance by providing real-time insights and adaptive learning experiences. This result aligns with the findings of Alkhateeb and Abdalla (2021), who argued that AI-powered social media analytics enhances business competitiveness in the context of international business. In addition, there is a need for training programs to focus on developing entrepreneurial skills so that they can be more effective in using AI-powered social media analytics. If this is achieved, entrepreneurs will be prepared to address the complex challenges of the 21st century and also enhance the quality of business operations in Anambra State, Nigeria. It is also essential to clearly state the limitations of the study. One of the significant limitations of this research is the sample size, as the 250 participants may not be representative of the entire population of entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria. In addition, the cross-sectional design of the study may have limited the thorough evaluation of the effectiveness of AI-powered social media analytics. The findings of this study, in accordance with the second research question, reveal that perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence are the top three factors that influence the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics. This suggests that entrepreneurs are more likely to adopt AI-powered social media analytics if they perceive it as useful, easy to use, and socially acceptable. These findings are consistent with recent research, such as AlQershi et al. (2020), which highlights the benefits of perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use in promoting technology adoption. In Anambra State, Nigeria, integrating AI-powered social media analytics into business operations can enhance business performance and competitiveness, particularly for entrepreneurs facing geographical barriers to high-quality business services. However, addressing technical issues, ensuring equal access to technology, and providing sufficient training and support are crucial to maximizing the benefits of AI-powered social media analytics. The results of this study also show that entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria, can benefit from AI-powered social media analytics, leading to excellent business performance. The study's findings on the third research question highlight key challenges in integrating AI-powered social media analytics into business operations. Notably, technical issues, limited feedback, inadequate digital infrastructure, insufficient training and support, and lack of human interaction were identified as significant limitations. Among these, lack of technical expertise emerged as a particularly critical concern, underscoring the need for a

balanced approach that incorporates the benefits of AI-powered social media analytics with the value of human interaction in business operations. These findings are supported by AlSharji (2018), emphasizing the need for robust technical support and entrepreneurial training to ensure the effective integration of AI-powered social media analytics. For policymakers, the findings suggest that investing in digital infrastructure and entrepreneurial training programs is crucial to supporting the effective use of AI-powered social media analytics in business operations. To entrepreneurs, the findings highlight the importance of developing targeted training programs that focus on practical applications and business integration. For business consultants, the findings suggest that AI-powered social media analytics can be used to enhance existing business strategies and outcomes. It is, however, important to note that these challenges need to be addressed more, particularly in the context of Anambra State, Nigeria, which will require the intervention of technologists, policymakers, and entrepreneurs to work collectively in mapping out approaches that will create a conducive environment for effective integration of AI-powered social media analytics into business operations.

6. CONCLUSIONS

This research examined the adoption and impact of AI-powered social media analytics on sustainable entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria. The results revealed that the adoption of AI-powered social media analytics is moderate among entrepreneurs, with perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and social influence being the top three factors that influence adoption. The findings also showed that AI-powered social media analytics has a significant positive impact on business performance and sustainability. These results suggest that integrating AI-powered social media analytics into business operations can create a more effective and competitive business environment for entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria. The findings of this study have significant implications for business education and practice in Nigeria. To achieve this, educators and policymakers should develop targeted training programs that focus on practical applications and business integration. Moreover, ensuring equal access to digital infrastructure is crucial to bridging the gap in digital literacy and infrastructure. By integrating AI-powered social media analytics into existing business strategies and outcomes, entrepreneurs can maximize their effectiveness. Future studies can build upon this research by examining the long-term effects of AI-powered social media analytics on business performance and sustainability and investigating the optimal ways to integrate these tools into business operations. By doing so, researchers can contribute to the

development of more sustainable and effective business practices that cater to the needs of entrepreneurs in Anambra State, Nigeria. This study provides a foundation for further research and development in the field of entrepreneurship in Anambra State, Nigeria. Additionally, given the cross-sectional design of the study, future research should consider using a longitudinal design to better assess the sustainability of the results. The study's findings also highlight the need for policymakers to invest in digital infrastructure and entrepreneurial training programs to support the effective use of AI-powered social media analytics in business operations. By doing so, policymakers can create a conducive environment for entrepreneurs to thrive and contribute to the economic development of Anambra State, Nigeria.

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